Wild Life Sanctuary in Delhi

928. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a wildlife sanctuary on the outskirts of Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the total area of land that has been acquired by Government for the sanctuary; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH (a) and (b) The Delhi Administration has notified an area of 1942 hectares of land in the villages of Asola, Sahurpur, Maidangarhi and Bhatti as a wildilfe sanctuary under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. An area of 1880 hectare (4700 acres) has been acquired for this purpose.

(c) Work related to the development of above wildlife sanctuary has been taken up by the Delhi Adminitsration and is proposed to be continued during the VIII Plan.

National Commission on Agriculture to supply fuel wood, fodder and small timber

939. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Ministe of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the recommendations outlined by the National Commission on Agriculture for giving priority to supply of fuelwood, fodder and small timber to people are being implemented in the country;

(b) whether the Orissa Government has been implementing the Orissa Social Forestry Project with assistance from Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA); and

(c) if so, the extent of assistance received so far from SIDA, the released to the Orissa Government so far, achievement made, district-wise, in Orissa in the first phase as also the action plan for the second phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) National Commission on Agriculture had recommended that a dynamic programme on social forestry should be taken up to supplement fuel wood, fodder and small timber production in order to meet fully the requirement in the rural areas. In pursuance of this recommendation, social forestry programmes were taken up on a large scale in most States of the country and are still under implementation from the Sixth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) The first phase of the SIDA assisted Orissa Social Forestry Project was started in 1983-84 and ended in 1987-88. The second phase was started in 1988-89 and will be under implementation till March, 1993.

Assistance equivalent to Rs. 53.83 crores was received from SIDA under the Project for the period March, 1983 to September, 1991. Of this amount Rs. 44.28 crores was released to the State Government ending June, 1991. The remaining amount payable to the State Government is under process for being released in the near future.

The district wise achievements made under the first and second phase of the Orissa Social Forestry Project for the period ending October, 1991, is given at Annexure. *See* Appendix CLII, Annexure No. 23)

Pressure on Forests

940. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Government so far to distribute seedlings mainly of fodder and fruit bearing species to decrease pressure on Government forests; and